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Developing a simulation tool for evaluating in-motion detector systems

Brian A. M. Jennings
LA-UR-18-31233

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Motivation

In order to combat the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials, Radiation Detection Systems (RDS) are used to scan pedestrians, vehicles, cargo, luggage, and other conveyances. Many of these systems are used in an “in-motion” configuration where the detector or target are moving past the other. Current modeling and simulation tools lack the ability to produce time-series detector response profiles for in-motion applications.

Outline

- Background
- Experimental Setup
 - RS-700 Detection System
 - Profile Measurements
 - Background Variation Measurements
 - Verification Measurements
 - Gantry Measurements
- Simulation Methodology
- Results & Analysis
 - Tool Development
 - ROI Time-Series Comparisons
 - Algorithm Comparisons
 - Assumptions & Limitations
- Conclusions
- Future Work

Background

- NSDD* deploys variety of detection systems
- Time & resource intensive test campaigns
- Evaluating proprietary algorithms
- Simulation & modeling tools ease burden
- Model specific to detector system for replay and algorithm evaluation

*Funding Agency

Background

- Goal of this project to produce tool that can be used to inform test campaign measurements
- Determine best configuration to be able to detect target quantity of threat material in a specific use-case
- Quickly test many configurations to produce ROC curves and/or turn-on (s-curve)

Experimental Setup – RS-700

- Radiation Solutions Inc.
- Modular & highly configurable system
- Promising results in previous work at LANL
- Several use-cases being considered by NSDD

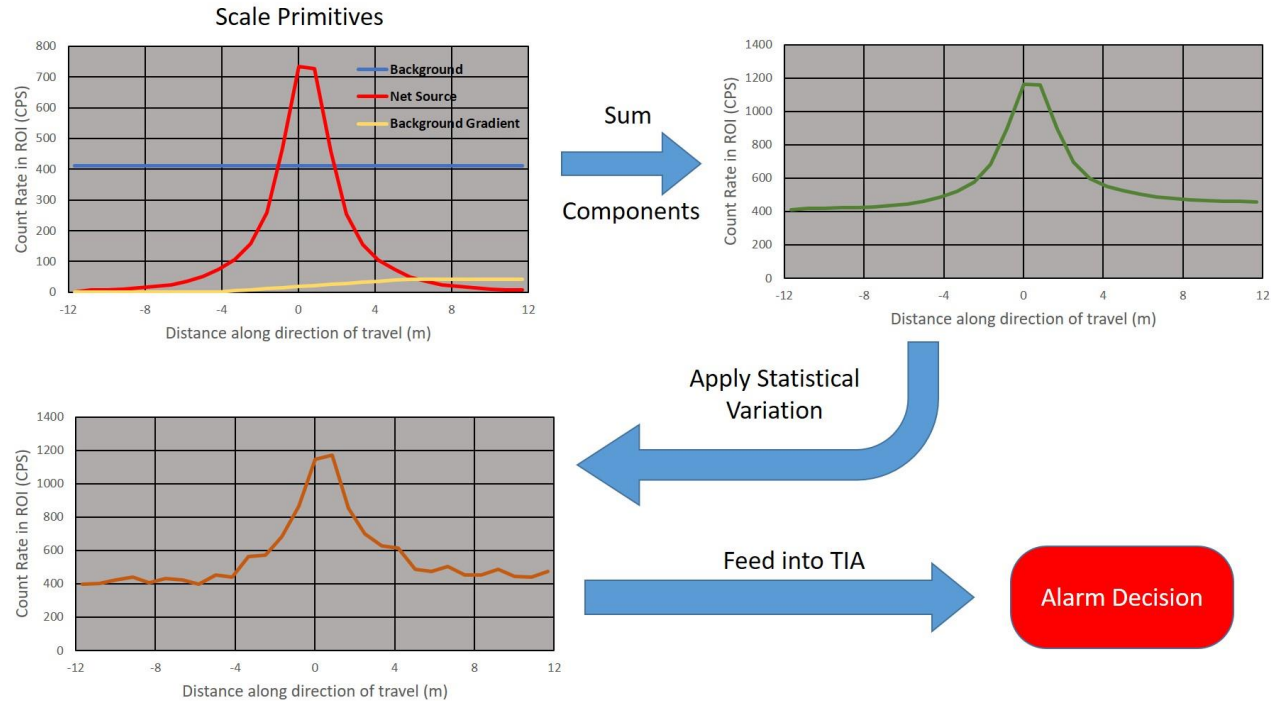


Experimental Setup – RS-700

- 4-2"x4"x16" NaI crystals
- Controller + RadAssist
- External on utility trailer
- Virtual detector configuration
- 1024 channel MCA with automatic gain stabilization

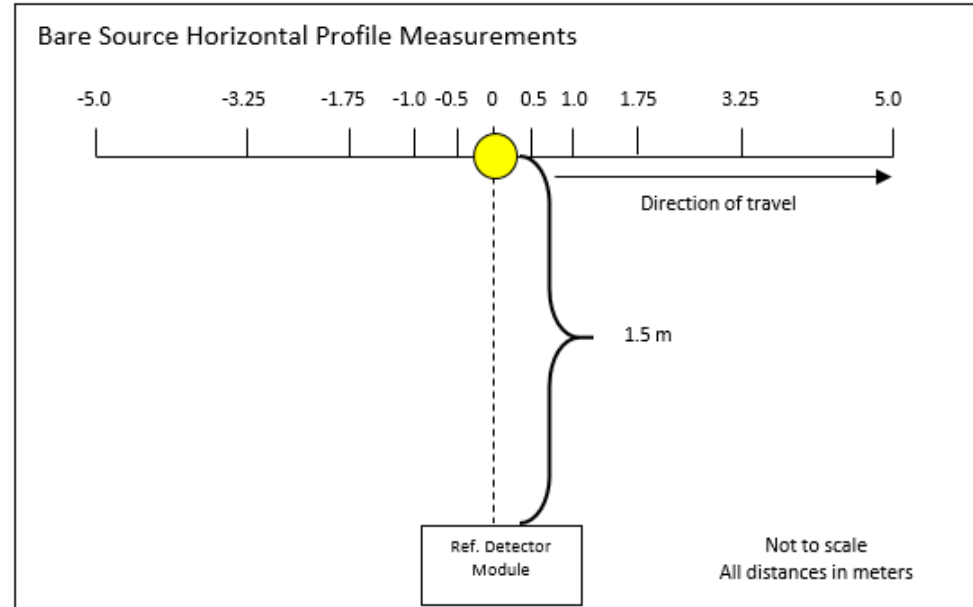


Simulation Flowchart



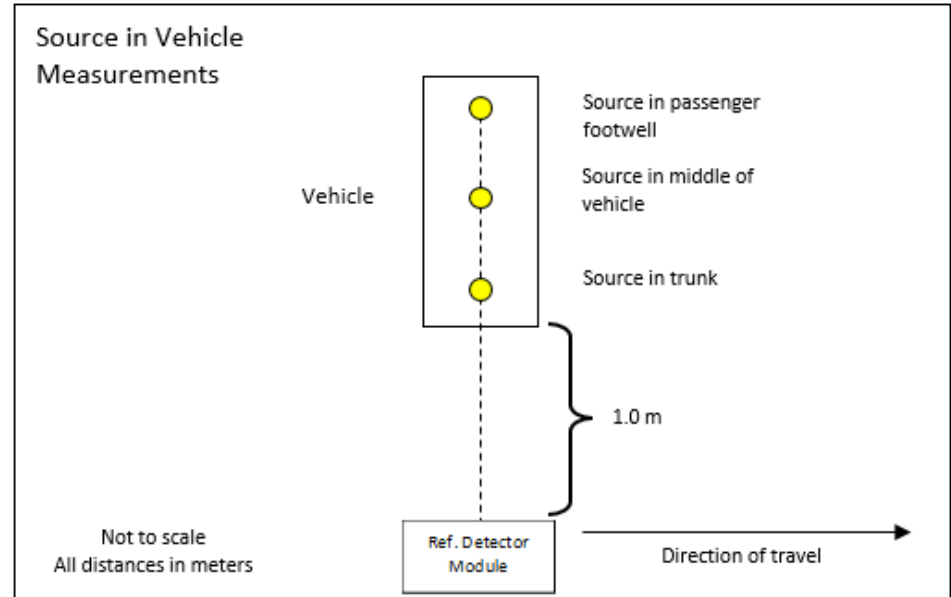
Experimental Setup – Profile Measurements

- Basis set
- Long dwell, low statistical uncertainty
- 11 measurement locations
- 6 sources used
- HEU, DU, WGPu, ^{133}Ba , ^{137}Cs , ^{57}Co



Experimental Setup – Source-in-Vehicle Measurements

- Centerline only
- Long dwell, low statistical uncertainty
- Primitive for change in spectrum due to shielding
- Distance and height of each source measured



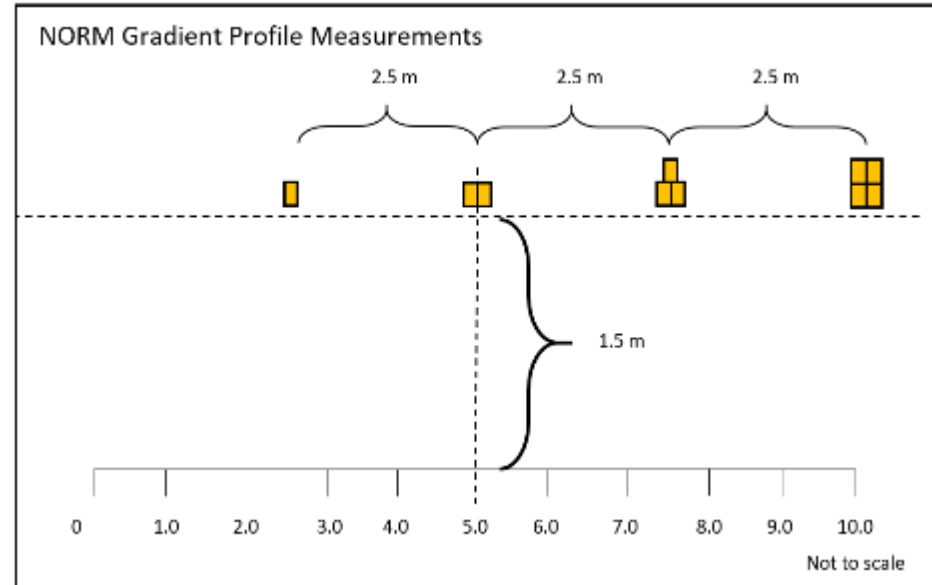
Experimental Setup – Background Variation Measurements

- Drive-about @ Coronado Mall
- ~3 hours data collected at constant speed
- Representative of urban area background variation



Experimental Setup – NORM Gradient Measurements

- Engineered NORM gradient
- Injected into simulation for detector-in-motion trials
- Background variation may challenge TIA
- Sampled from drive-about distribution



Experimental Setup – Verification Measurements

- In-motion measurements
- 17 configurations as MDS
- Used to validate output of simulation

Source	Source Location	Engine Speed	source-to-detector distance
HEU	Trunk	600 RPM	138 cm
HEU	Middle of Car	1200 RPM	309 cm
HEU	Bare	600 RPM	150 cm
HEU	$\frac{1}{4}$ " Steel	600 RPM	150 cm
HEU	2" HDPE	600 RPM	150 cm
WGPu	Trunk	600 RPM	134 cm
WGPu	Foot Well	600 RPM	404 cm
WGPu	Bare	1200 RPM	150 cm
WGPu	$\frac{1}{4}$ " Steel	600 RPM	150 cm
WGPu	2" HDPE	600 RPM	150 cm
DU	$\frac{1}{4}$ " Steel	600 RPM	150 cm
DU	2" HDPE	600 RPM	150 cm
CS-1	Trunk	600 RPM	149 cm
CS-1	Middle of Car	600 RPM	310 cm
CS-1	Foot Well	600 RPM	399 cm
I3-598	Bare	600 RPM	150 cm
1193-15	$\frac{1}{4}$ " Steel	900 RPM	150 cm

Experimental Setup – Gantry Measurements

- Used simulation tool to choose distance & shielding
- 8 configurations
- Close to limits of detection



Simulation Methodology – Basic User Inputs

VSMDS - Virtual Spectroscopic Mobile Detection Simulation Tool

Simulation Type

☒ Fixed Detectors (source-in-motion)
☐ Fixed Source (detectors-in-motion)

Background Parameters

Background Exposure Rate [$\mu\text{R/hr}$]

Source-to-Detector distance [m]
Max: 5 meters

Source Height [m] (relative to det. 1 center)
Max: 5 meters

Source/Detector speed [kph]
Max: 20 kph

Source 1

☐ Include Source in Simulation Scaling Factor [%] (0-200%)
218 micro-Ci source at 1.5 meters

Source 2

☐ Include Source in Simulation Scaling Factor [%] (0-200%)
210 micro-Ci source at 1.5 meters

Source 3

☐ Include Source in Simulation Scaling Factor [%] (0-200%)
235 micro-Ci source at 1.5 meters

Source 4

☐ Include Source in Simulation Compact Metal Equiv. [g]
HEU source at 1.5 meters

Output File

☒ Apply Poisson variation Number of runs ☐ 200ms Sample Rate

Simulation Methodology – Advanced User Inputs

Advanced User Options

Detector Geometry

Height (cm) Width (cm)
Thickness (cm)

Detector 1 ☒ Active Relative Eff (%)
Vertical Offset (m)
Horizontal Offset (m)

Detector 2 ☒ Active Relative Eff (%)
Vertical Offset (m)
Horizontal Offset (m)

Detector 3 ☒ Active Relative Eff (%)
Vertical Offset (m)
Horizontal Offset (m)

Detector 4 ☒ Active Relative Eff (%)
Vertical Offset (m)
Horizontal Offset (m)

Virtual Detector Configuration

VD 1	VD 2	VD 3	VD 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Det. 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Det. 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Det. 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Det. 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Det. 4

Cubic Spline Parameters

Range Values (z/d)	-3.3333	-2.1667	-1.1667	-0.6667	-0.3333	0.0000	0.3333	0.6667	1.1667	2.1667	3.3333
Coefficient A	0.0699	0.1532	0.3842	0.6648	0.8865	1.0000	0.8865	0.6648	0.3842	0.1532	0.0000
Coefficient B	0.0538	0.1066	0.4347	0.6724	0.5862	0.0000	-0.5862	-0.6724	-0.4347	-0.1066	0.0000
Coefficient C	0.0000	0.0452	0.2829	0.1924	-0.4512	-1.3073	-0.4512	0.1924	0.2829	0.0452	0.0000
Coefficient D	0.0129	0.0792	-0.0603	-0.6436	-0.8561	0.8561	0.6436	0.0603	-0.0792	-0.0129	0.0000

Source-to-Det Reference Distance (m)

Primitives

Source: Label: ☐ SNM Source

Lifetime (s)

Bare Add Configuration Remove Configuration

Description:

Spectrum

0, 0, 0, 0, 24812, 49629, 57580, 71295, 109217, 298365, 1176216, 1911668, 983912, 296101, 82663, 55103, 72121, 94424, 109746, 109454, 105556, 119765, 140842, 149858, 160119, 206708, 324180, 482180, 516207, 357010, 169388, 74316, 48517, 45009, 46141, 47531, 49222, 49879, 51483, 52559, 52510, 53206, 53690, 54969, 56598, 58756, 61827, 65669, 69747, 74410, 78191, 82306, 84949, 84577, 83512, 79504, 75493, 70725, 66156, 61822, 57467, 54559, 50733, 47270, 44104, 40555, 37399, 35449, 33512, 31890, 30757, 29657, 29032, 28405, 27822, 27172, 25645, 24840, 24266, 23045, 22541, 22053, 22658, 23572, 25580, 28422, 32287, 37366, 42049, 47065, 52311, 56317, 60466, 64403, 68820, 74450, 79089, 84232, 89291, 93086, 92785, 91751, 87214,

Add Source Remove Source Save Cancel

Simulation Methodology – Running the Simulation

- Initialize Variables
- Multi-Threading Individual Trials
- Integrate Detector Response Curve
- Create trial
- Write Output

Running the Simulation – Initialize Variables

- Configuration settings from basic and advanced UI initialized globally
- These variables do not change from one trial to another
- Faster than setting them for each individual trial

Running the Simulation – Multi-Thread Individual Trials

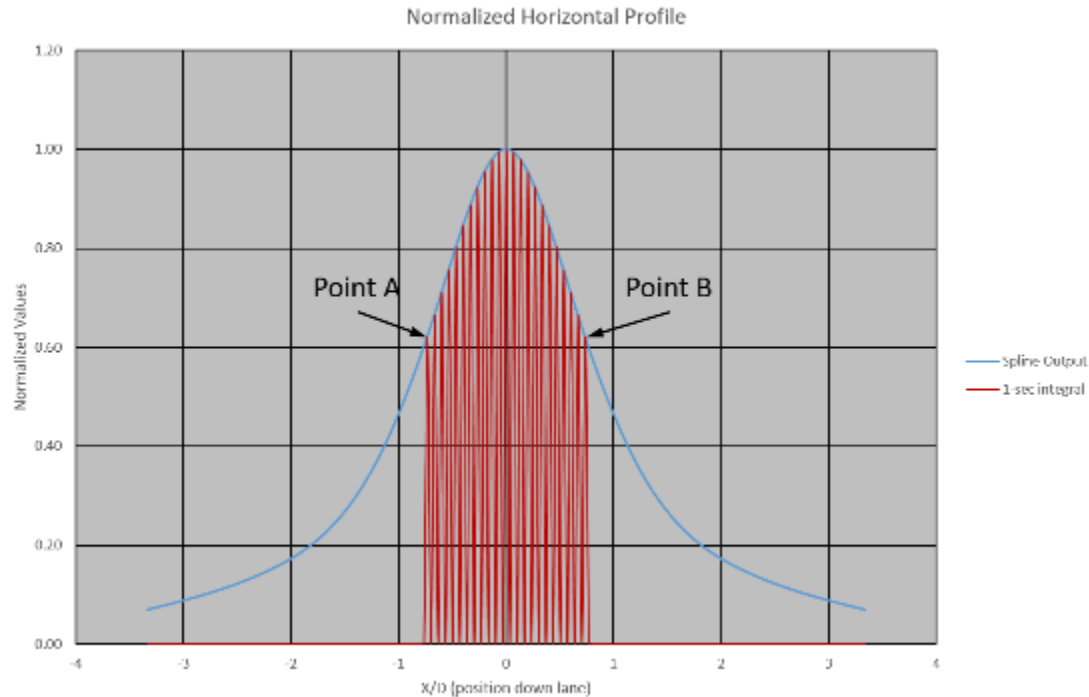
- Tool queries PC to determine number of logical processors
- Total number of trials evenly distributed among available processors
- Trial numbers pre-assigned to prevent overwriting

Running the Simulation – Integrate Detector Response Curve

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\int_a^b \left[A + B(x - X(i)) + C(x - X(i))^2 + D(x - X(i))^3 \right] \left(\frac{\Omega}{\Omega_0} \right) dx}{b - a}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega = & \arctan \left[\frac{(x_2 - x_p)(y_2 - y_p)}{z_p \left[(x_2 - x_p)^2 + (y_2 - y_p)^2 + z_p^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] - \arctan \left[\frac{(x_1 - x_p)(y_2 - y_p)}{z_p \left[(x_1 - x_p)^2 + (y_2 - y_p)^2 + z_p^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \\ & - \arctan \left[\frac{(x_2 - x_p)(y_1 - y_p)}{z_p \left[(x_2 - x_p)^2 + (y_1 - y_p)^2 + z_p^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] + \arctan \left[\frac{(x_1 - x_p)(y_1 - y_p)}{z_p \left[(x_1 - x_p)^2 + (y_1 - y_p)^2 + z_p^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Running the Simulation – Integrate Detector Response Curve



Running the Simulation – Create Trial

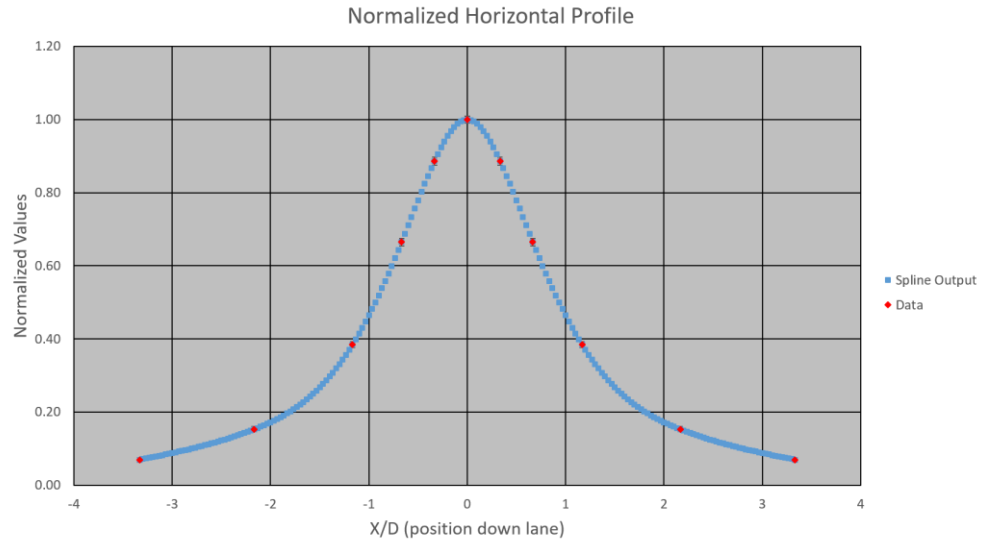
- 15 seconds background added to front and back of trial
- Individual source primitives are combined to a single one
- Multiplied by ε at each timestep from integrated detector response
- Background gradient applied from -5 to +5 meters

Running the Simulation – Write Output

- .n42 & .rsv files are created
- .n42 is ANSI standard format, time-series spectra for each virtual detector
- .rsv is RSI “survey” file, which contains same information as .n42, but can be loaded into RadAssist replay tool

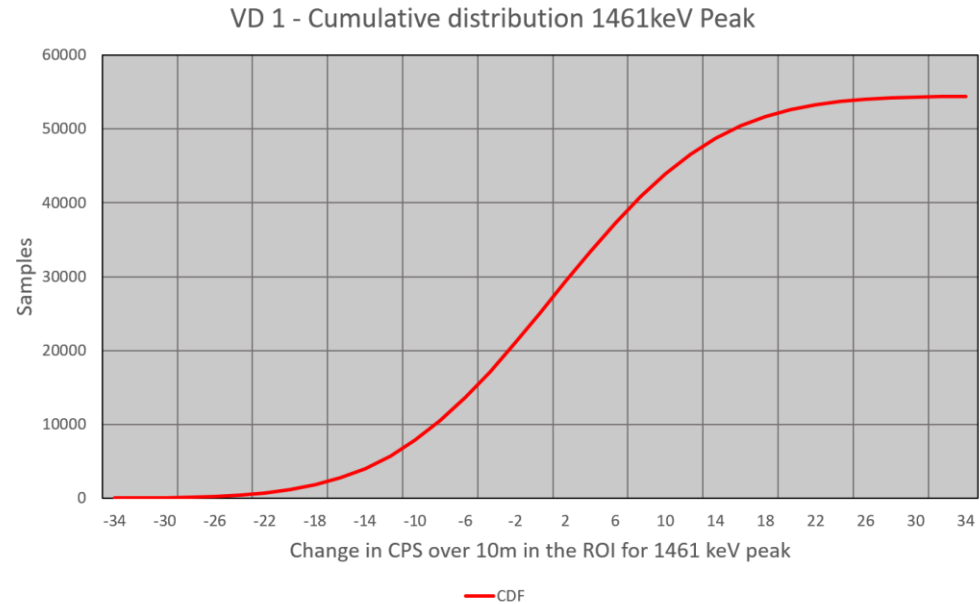
Results & Analysis – Detector Response Profile

- 6 source average
- Specific ROI for each source
- Normalized to center measurement



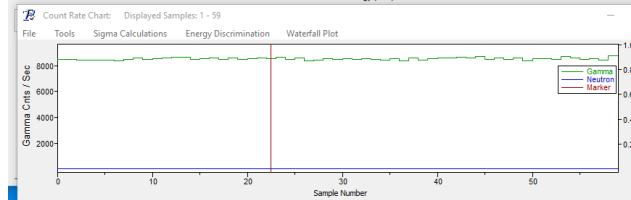
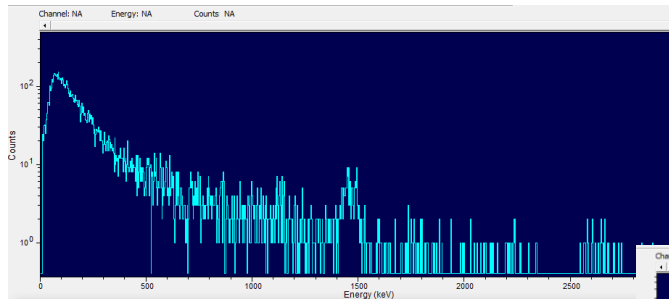
Results & Analysis – Background Variation

- ~54,000 data points
- $\bar{X} = 0.0 \frac{cps}{10m}$
- $\sigma = 10.4 \frac{cps}{10m}$
- Detector-in-motion simulations sample randomly or select percentile

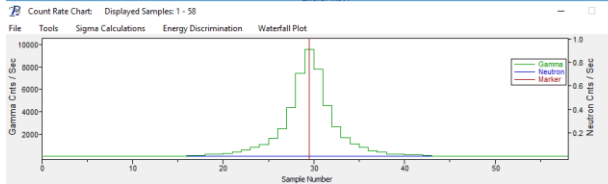
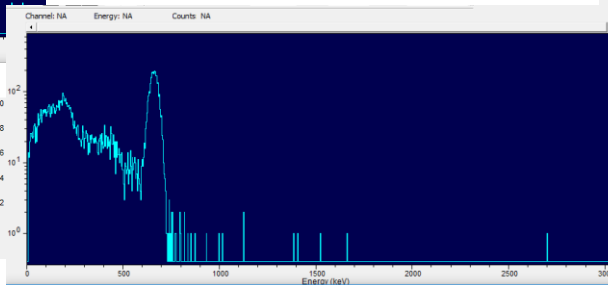


Results & Analysis – Simulation Components

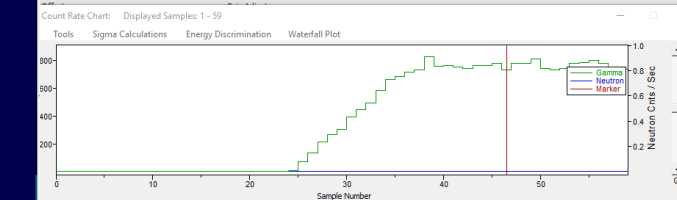
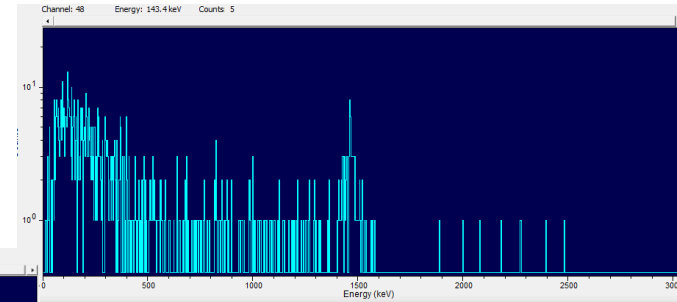
Background



Source



Background Gradient

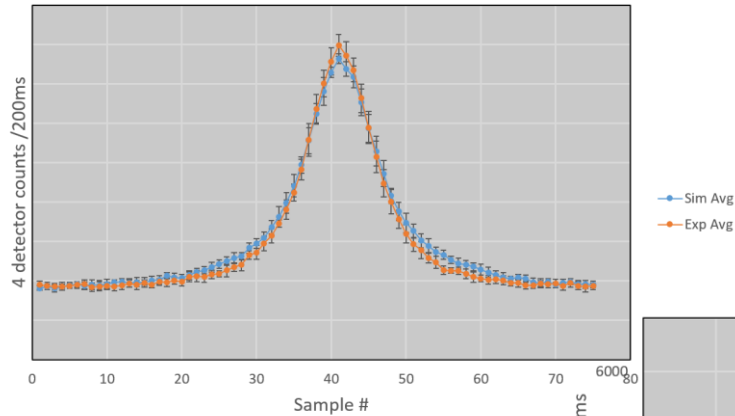


Results & Analysis – In-Motion Comparisons

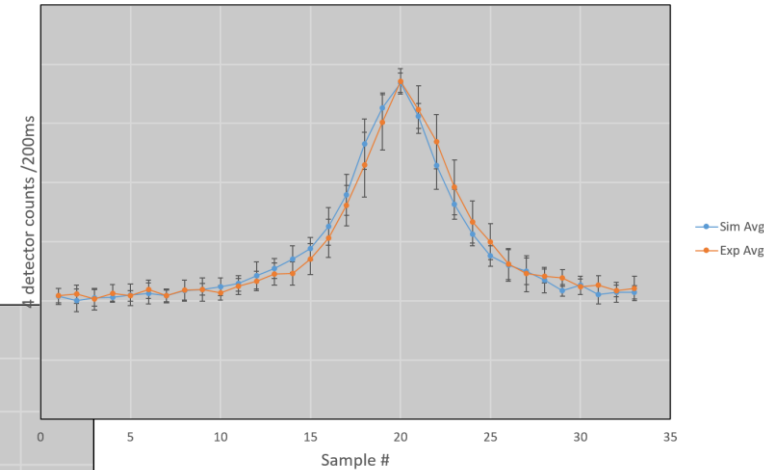
- MDS setup – 17 configurations
- Gantry setup – 8 configurations
- Limited SNM & DU results presented
- Spectral ROI comparisons
- RSI TIA comparisons

Results & Analysis – Bare Sources

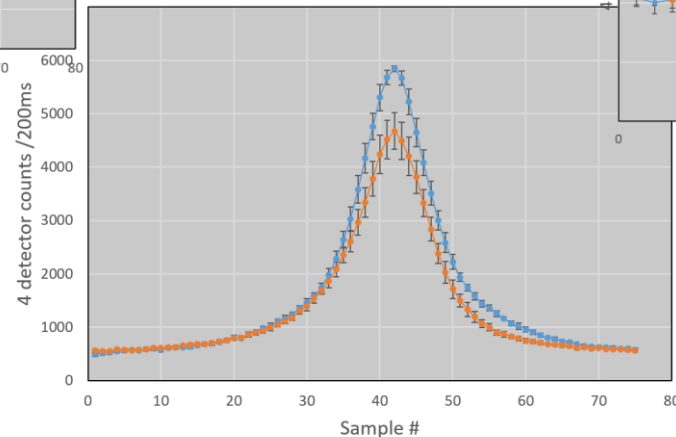
HEU Bare 600 RPM



WGPu Bare 1200 RPM

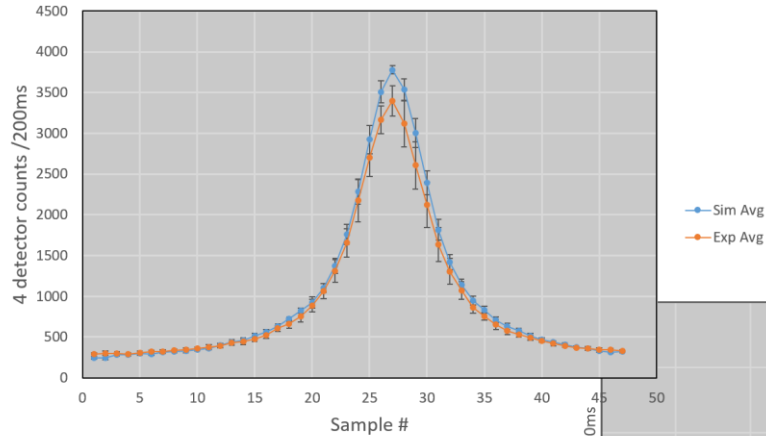


^{57}Co Bare 600 RPM

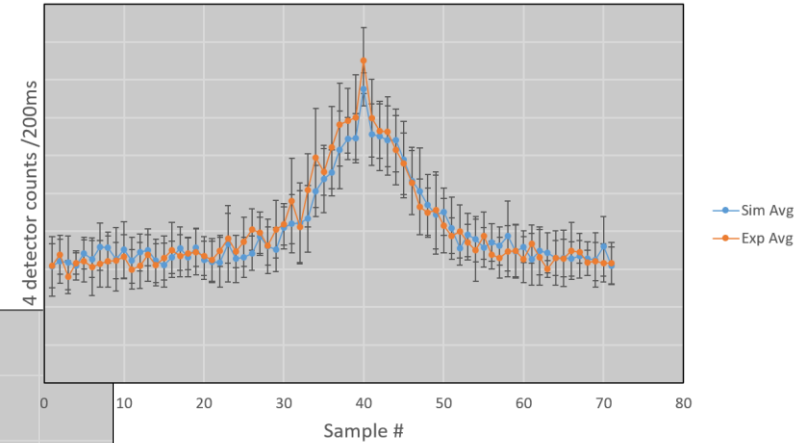


Results & Analysis – Steel Shielded Sources

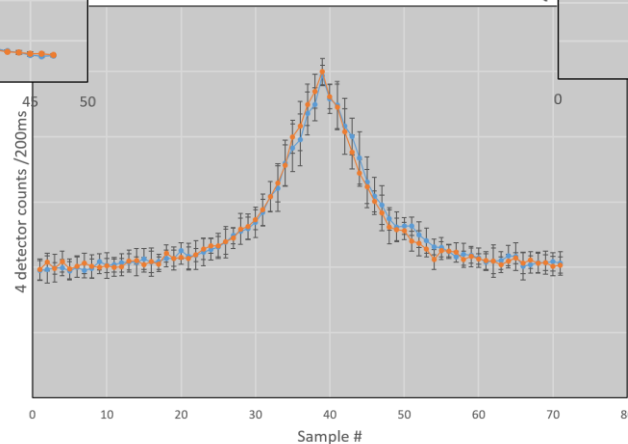
^{133}Ba 1/4" Fe Shield 900 RPM



DU Steel 600 RPM

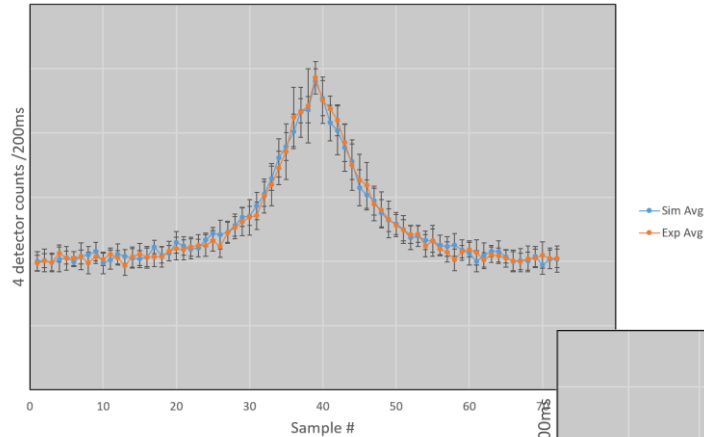


WGPu 1/4" Fe Shield 600 RPM

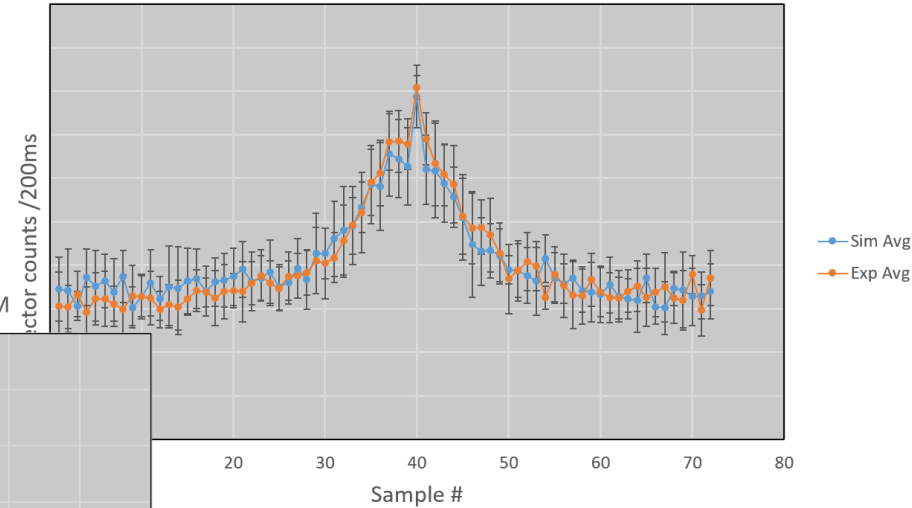


Results & Analysis – HDPE Shielded Sources

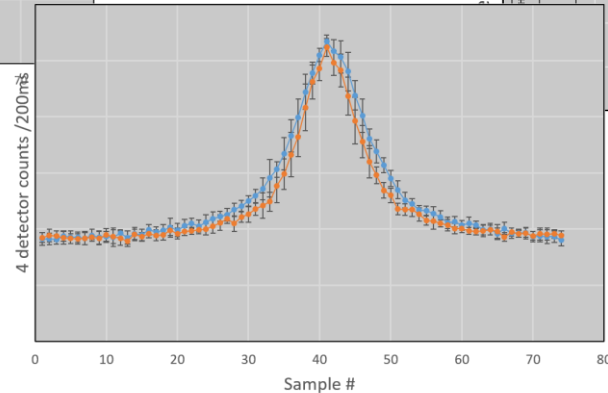
WGPu 2" HDPE Shield 600 RPM



DU Poly 600 RPM

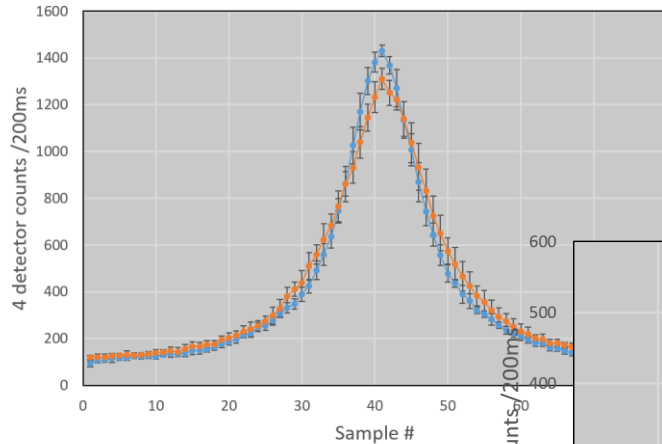


HEU 2" HDPE 600RPM

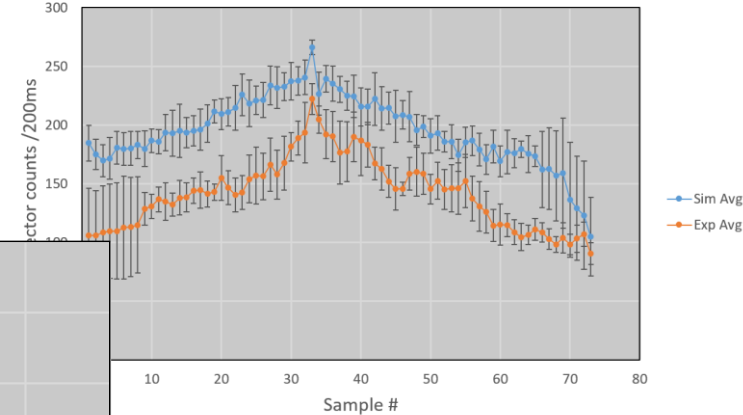


Results & Analysis – Source in Vehicle

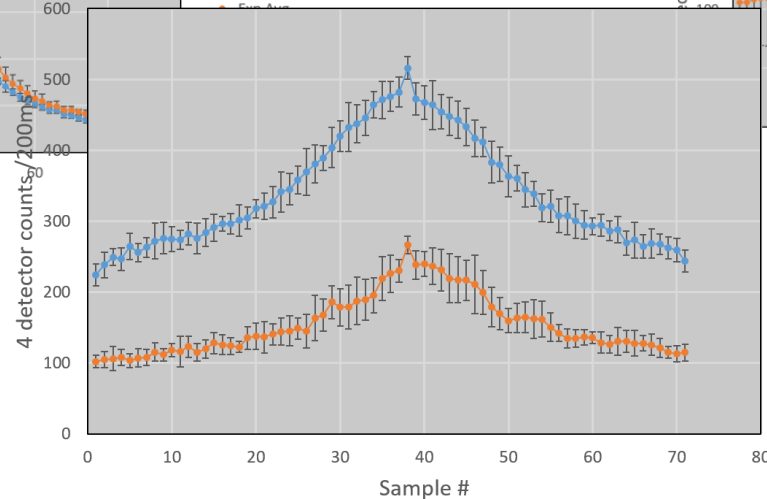
^{137}Cs Trunk 600 RPM



^{137}Cs Footwell 600 RPM

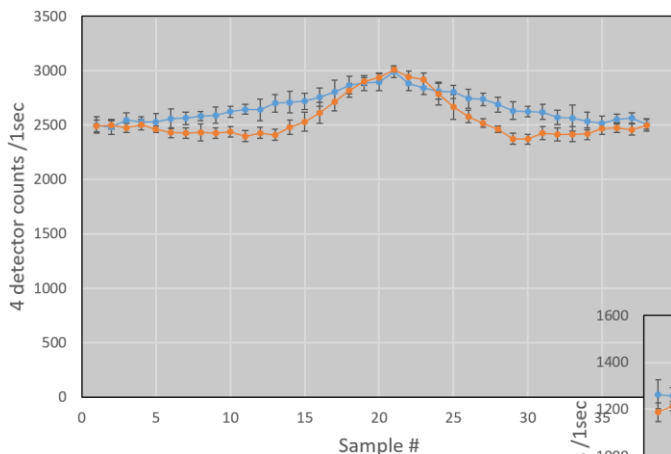


^{137}Cs MidVehicle 600 RPM

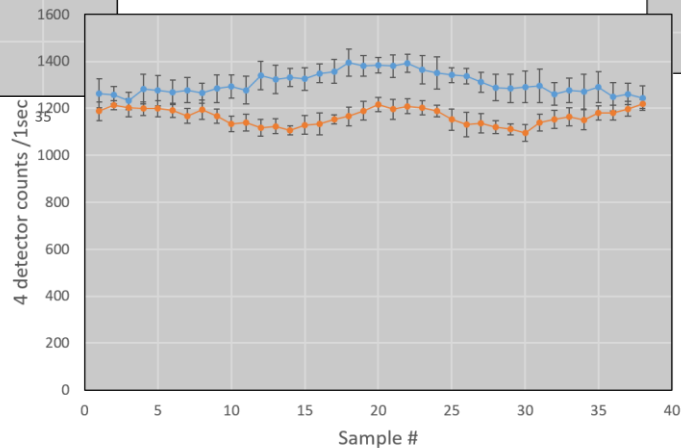


Results & Analysis - Gantry

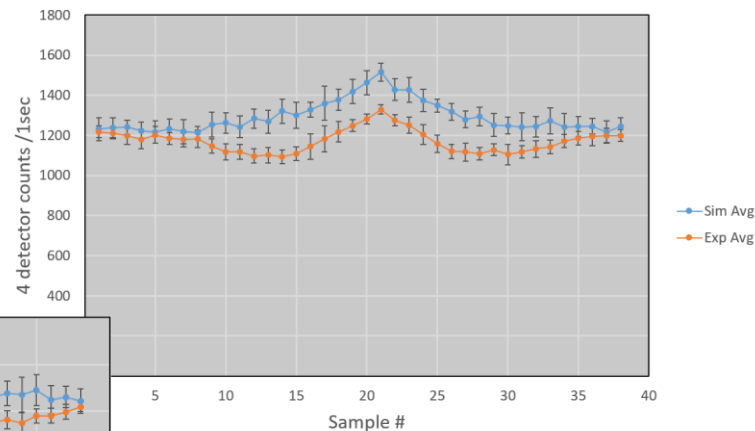
^{57}Co 2" HDPE Shield @ 230cm 40cm/sec



^{133}Ba Bare @ 230cm 40cm/sec

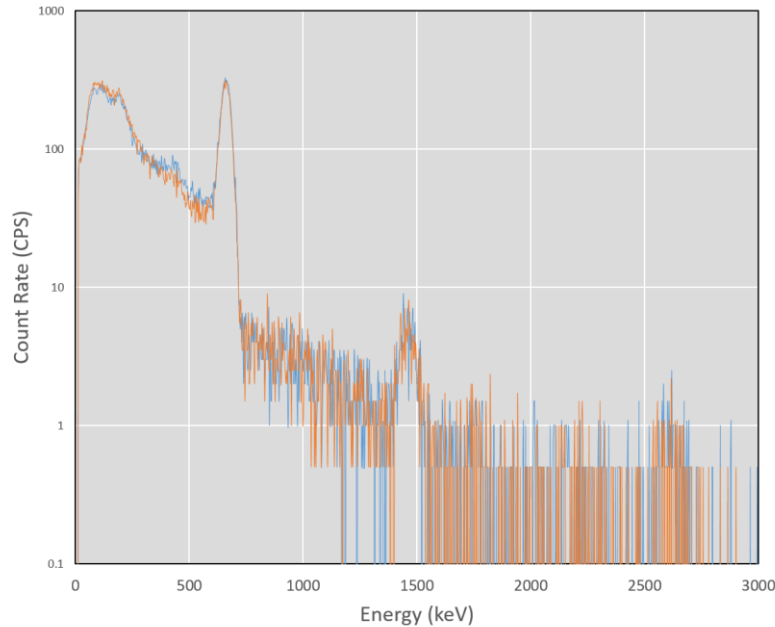


^{133}Ba 1/4" Fe Shield @ 150cm 40cm/sec

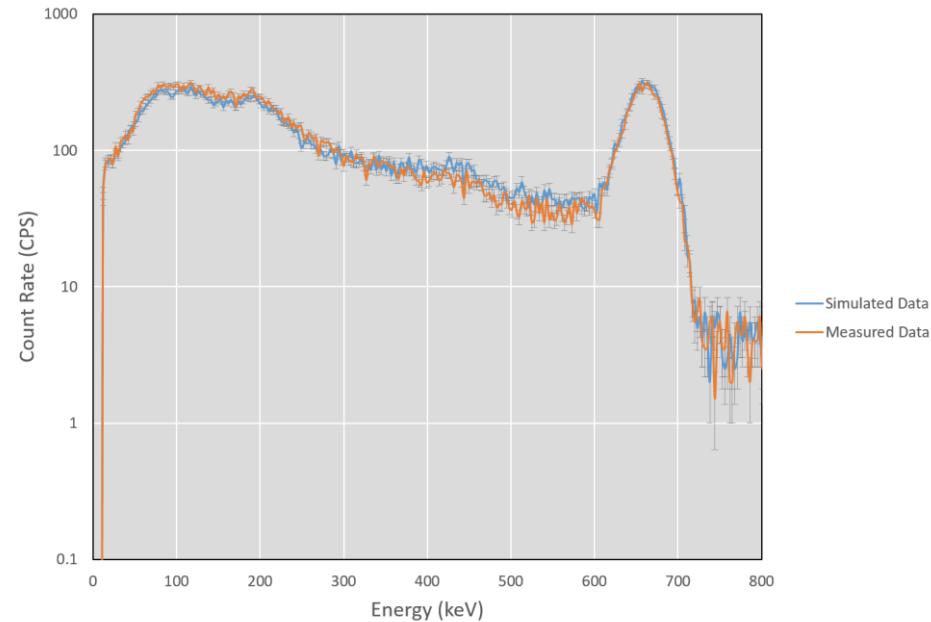


Results & Analysis – Spectrum Comparison

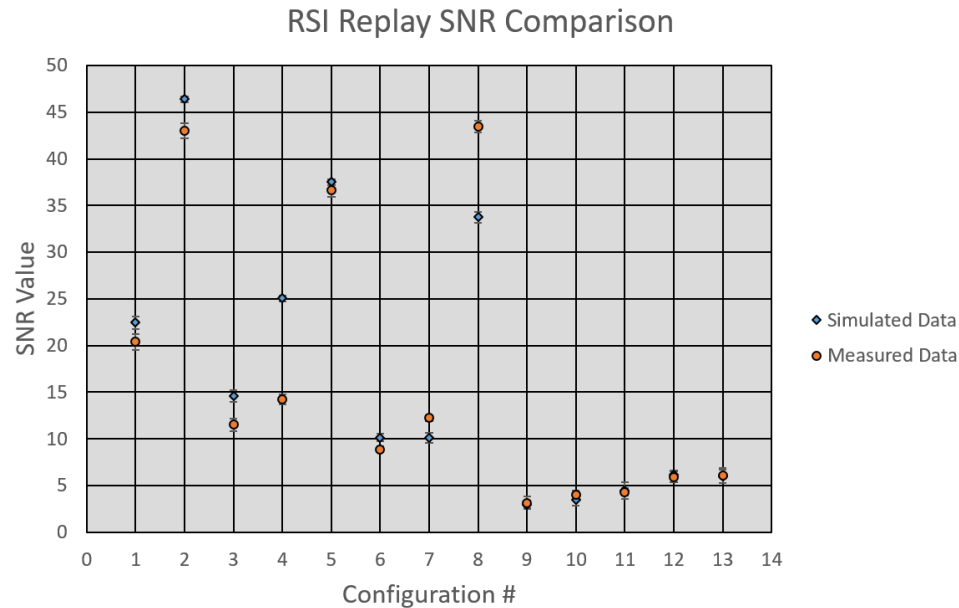
Spectrum of ^{137}Cs in vehicle trunk



Spectrum of ^{137}Cs in vehicle trunk

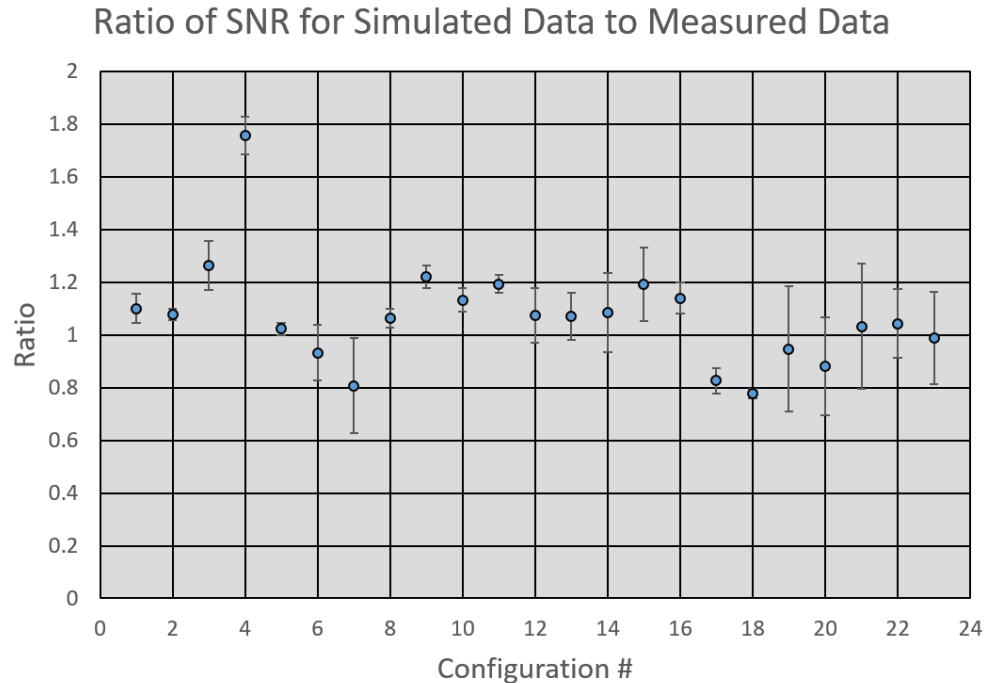


Results & Analysis – TIA SNR Comparison



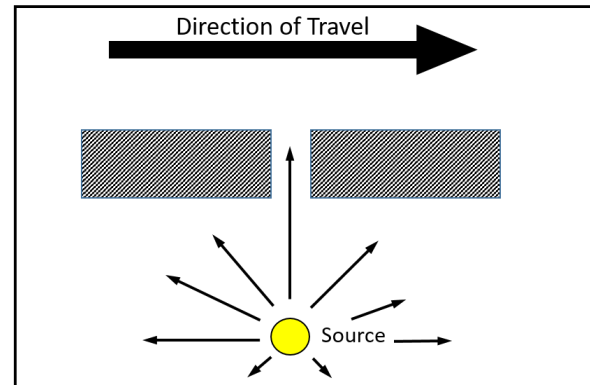
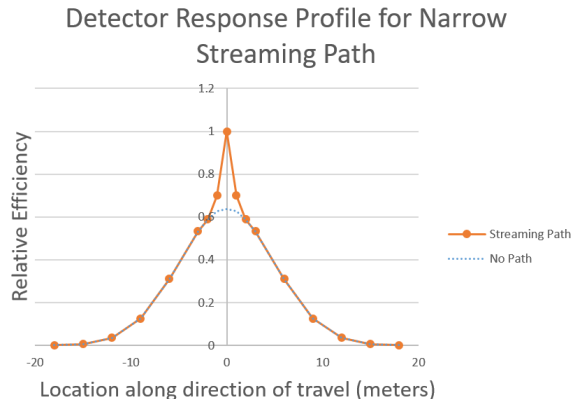
#	Configuration	Simulated Correct ID	Simulated SNR	Measured Correct ID	Measured SNR
1	¹³³ Ba Fe 900RPM	10	22.5 ± 0.7	10	20.4 ± 0.9
2	⁵⁷ Co Bare 600RPM	10	46.4 ± 0.3	10	43.0 ± 0.8
3	¹³⁷ Cs Footwell 600RPM	10	14.6 ± 0.6	10	11.5 ± 0.7
4	¹³⁷ Cs MidVehicle 600RPM	10	25.0 ± 0.3	10	14.3 ± 0.5
5	¹³⁷ Cs Trunk 600RPM	10	37.5 ± 0.3	10	36.7 ± 0.8
6	1820-84-3 Fe 230cm	10	10.1 ± 0.4	10	8.9 ± 0.3
7	1820-84-3 HDPE 230cm	10	10.1 ± 0.5	10	12.2 ± 0.3
8	1820-84-3 Bare 40cm	10	33.8 ± 0.6	10	43.4 ± 0.6
9	FN-591 Fe 150cm	4	3.0 ± 0.4	2	3.1 ± 0.7
10	FN-591 HDPE 150cm	5	3.5 ± 0.6	3	4.0 ± 0.5
11	FN-591 Bare 230cm	5	4.5 ± 0.9	2	4.3 ± 0.4
12	IS200 Fe 230cm	10	6.2 ± 0.5	10	5.9 ± 0.6
13	IS200 HDPE 230cm	10	6.0 ± 0.7	10	6.1 ± 0.8

Results & Analysis – TIA SNR Comparison



Results & Analysis – Assumptions & Limitations

- Non-uniform shielding
- Streaming paths
- “Standard Vehicle”
- Pulse pile-up
- Deadtime
- 25 Sources



Conclusions

- Goal of tool to inform about what physical measurements should be included in test campaign and identify best configuration to use.
- Generally good agreement between simulated and measured data; successful in goal of the project, not an exact answer.
- 10 of 17 in-motion ROI time-series comparisons had overlapping error bars (5 of 7 outside of this were in-vehicle comparisons)
- Source-in-vehicle results not expected to be perfect with known streaming path and non-uniform shielding; could improve results by measuring profile and changing cubic spline

Conclusions

- When accounting for background suppression, 6 of 8 gantry ROI time-series comparisons were in agreement.
- Flexibility of tool to change sources, configurations, detector response, etc. reduces accuracy, but greatly increases it's value to NSDD program.

Future Work

- Sensitivity investigation to impose limits on parameters
- Incorporating background suppression
- Investigate impact of replacing solid angle calculation with energy dependent function that accounts for path length through detector media
- Additional source-in-vehicle measurements to better understand shielding that will be encountered in real-world situations
- Flexibility to be used with other systems. Backbone of tool will not change, output format and primitives on input.

Tool Demo

- Show how quick & easy it is to generate simulated trials

Acknowledgements

- Adam Hecht
- Cassiano de Oliveira, Jim Toevs
- John Rennie, Greg Orlicz
- Luc Murphy and the Office of NSDD
- Audrey Roman & Family

Questions?

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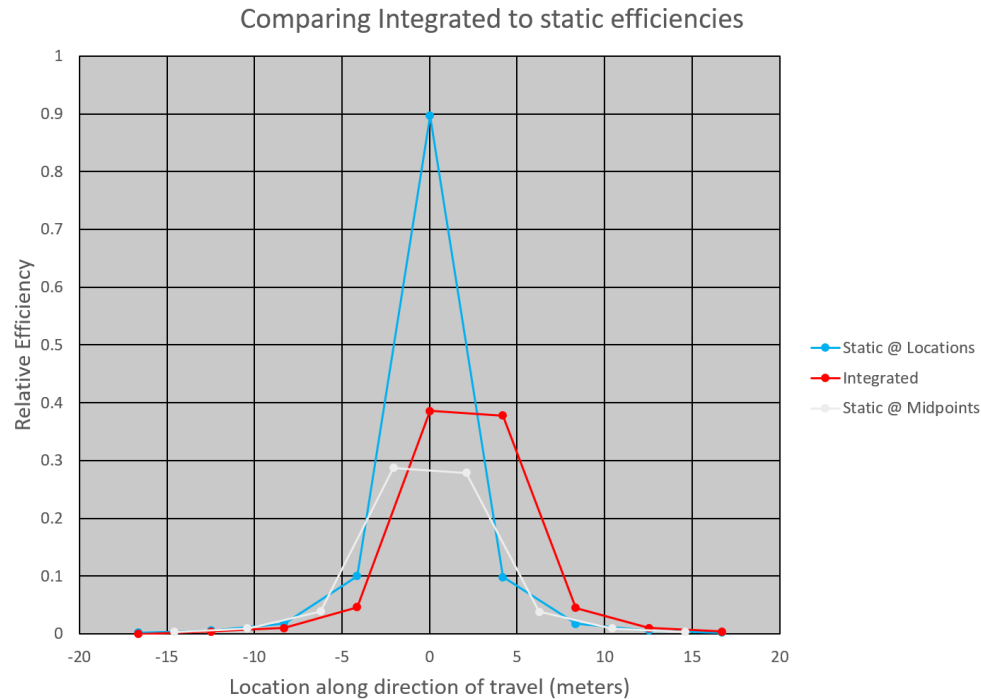
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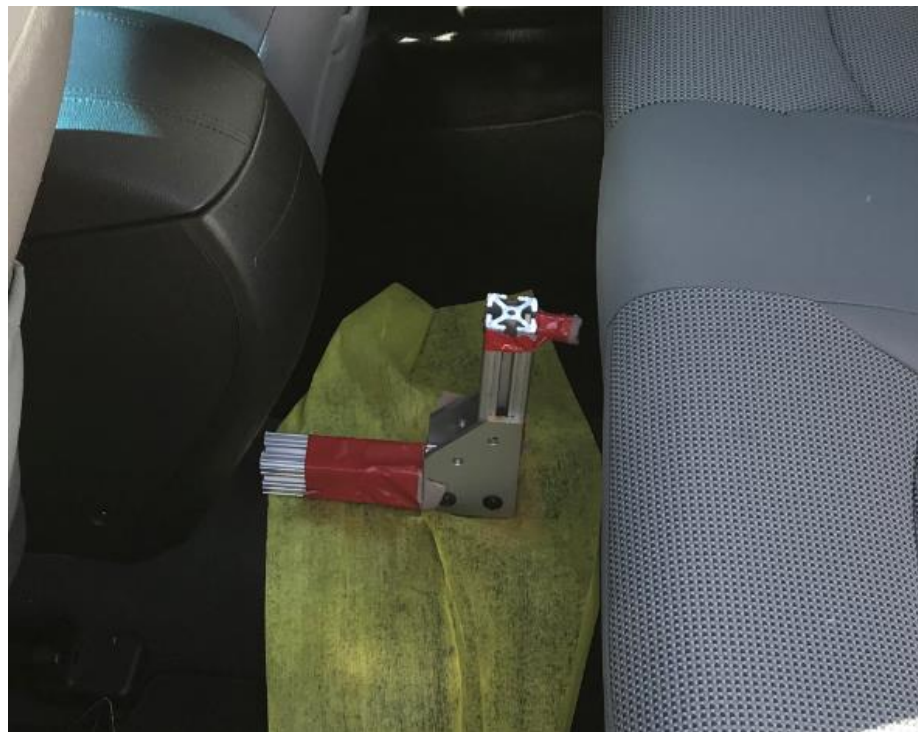
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Extra Slides

Static Vs. In-Motion



^{137}Cs Source Holder Issue



SMDS Example



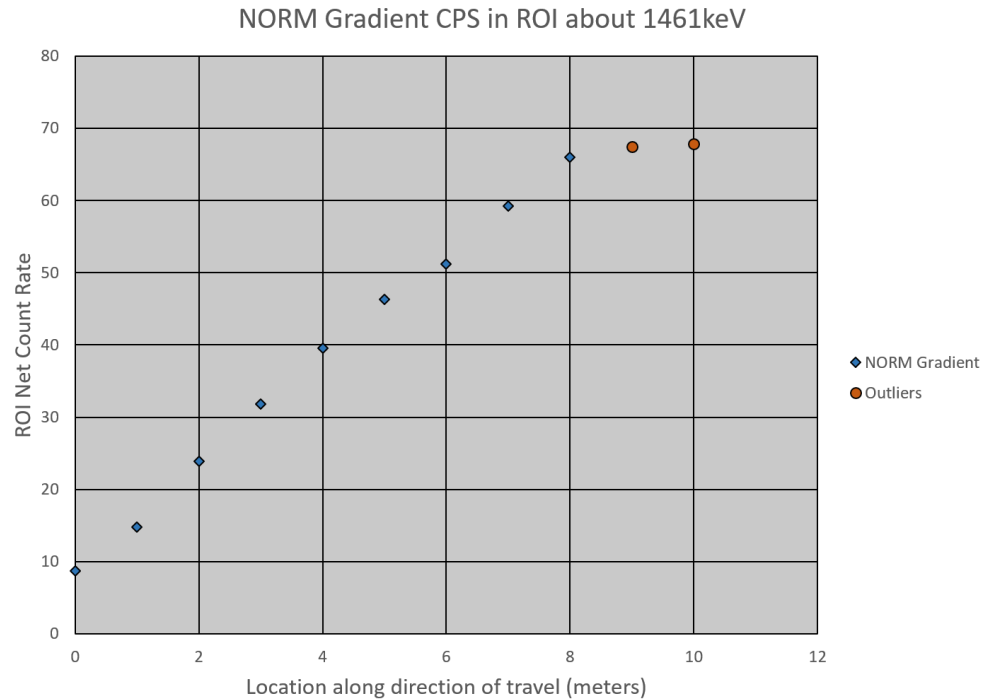
N42 Example

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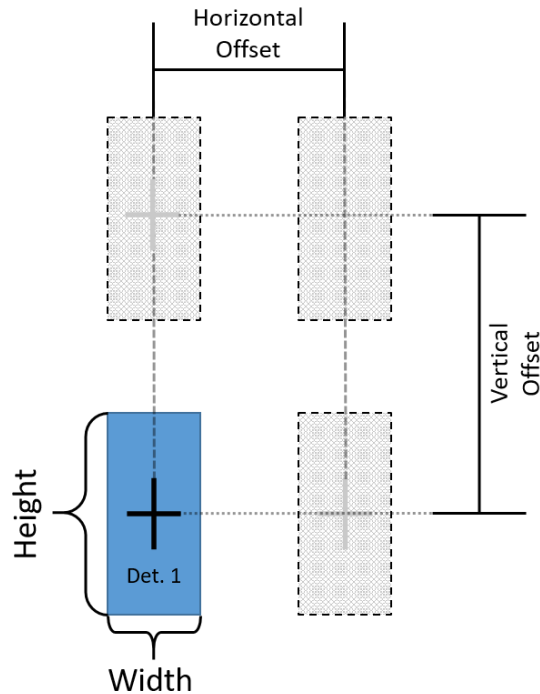
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NORM Gradient Profile



UI Options



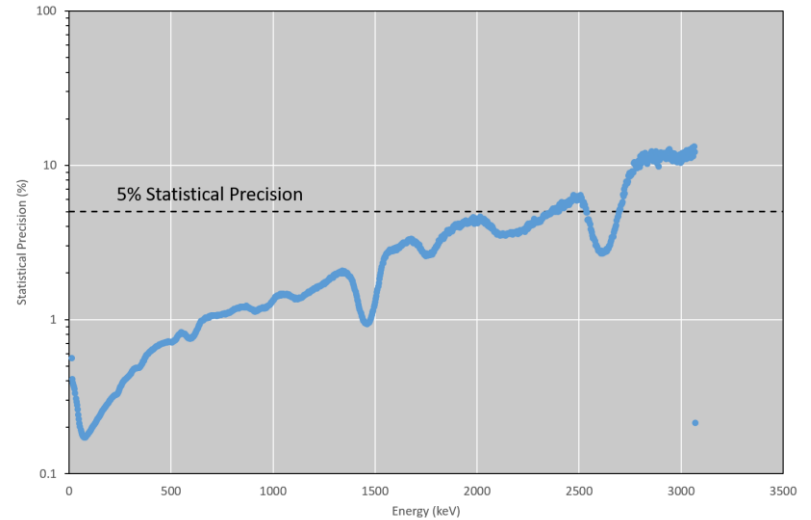
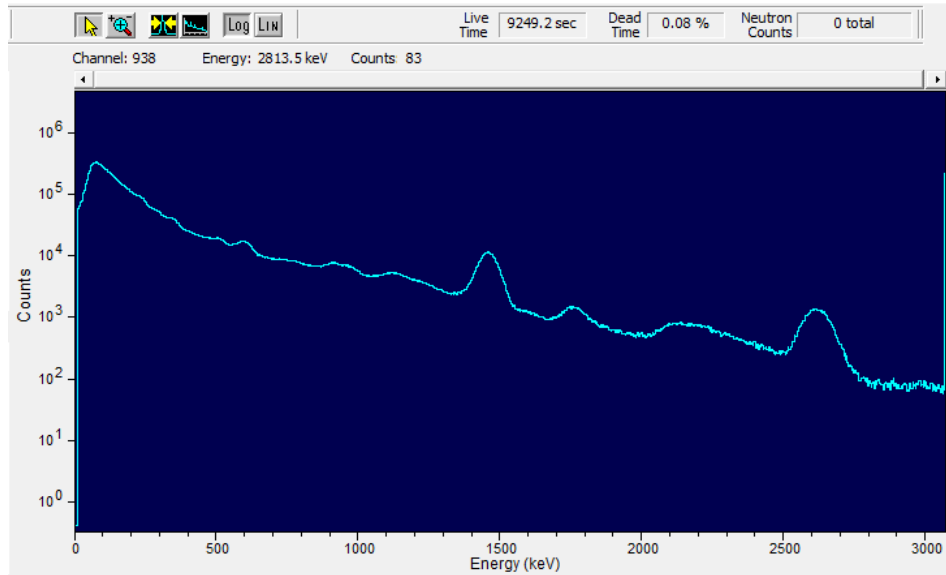
Primitives

Source: Label: ☒ SNM Source

Metal Mass (g) Livetime (s)

Description:

Background Primitive



Measurement Photos



Measurement Photos



Measurement Photos



Measurement Photos

